

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 HEW-06
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 DHA-02 SCA-01 SCSE-00
USIA-15 EB-08 /073 W
-----151124Z 087957 /17

R 150925Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2755
INFO USUN NEW YORK 716
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 2755

FOREIGN DISASTER RELIEF (OFDA)
GENEVA FOR UNDRO

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: SWEL EAID RO
SUBJ: EARTHQUAKE: SITREP 10, APRIL 11, 1977

REF: BUCHAREST 2016

1. SPEECHES OF PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU AND VARIOUS MINISTERS
TO MARCH 28 MEETING:

A. VALUE OF TOTAL LOSSES - 10 BILLION LEI

B. DWELLINGS DESTROYED OR SERIOUSLY DAMAGED - 33,000.
CEAUSESCU STATED THAT ARMY WILL BE USED TO HELP REBUILD CITIES
OF BUCHAREST, CRAIOVA AND ZIMNICEA, WHICH WERE MOST SEVERELY
DAMAGED BY THE QUAKE. CURRENT FIVE YEAR PLAN HAS BEEN
SUPPLEMENTED WITH 160,000 MORE APARTMENTS TO BE BUILT .

C. HOMELESS FAMILIES - 35,000

D. DEATHS - 1,570
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E. INJURED - 11,300 OF WHICH 854 STILL HOSPITALIZED

F. INDUSTRIAL, CONSTRUCTION AND TRANSPORT ENTERPRISES
AFFECTED - 763, OF WHICH ONLY 6 ARE NOW NOT OPERATING AT
CAPACITY , ACCORDING TO CEAUSESCU. (COMMENT: STATEMENT THAT ONLY
6 PLANTS ARE NOT OPERATING AT CAPACITY SEEMS HIGHLY

CONSERVATIVE. INFORMATION RECEIVED BY EMBASSY AND PUBLISHED REPORTS OF MINISTRY OFFICIALS WOULD INDICATE A SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER NUMBER. ALTHOUGH NOT EXPLICITLY STATED IT COULD BE INFERRED FROM MINISTER FLORESCU THAT 4 PLANTS ARE STILL NOT IN NORMAL OPERATION IN CHEMISTRY SECTOR ALONE. "23 AUGUST," MACHINE BUILDING PLANT, WAS ALSO MENTIONED AS EXPERIENCING FIRE CAUSED BY QUAKE AND BEING ONE OF THE PLANTS STILL NOT UNDER NORMAL OPERATION. WE ALSO KNOW OF TWO GLASS PLANTS WHICH PARTIALLY DESTROYED BY QUAKE. END COMMENT.) LOSSES BY CHEMICAL INDUSTRY AS RESULT OF QUAKE WERE REPORTED AS 800 MILLION LEI IN PRODUCTION AND 300 MILLION LEI TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES. TEXTILE INDUSTRY WAS REPORTED AS HAVING LOSSES OF 67 MILLION LEI IN MATERIAL. ALL LINES OF TRANSPORTATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS WERE REPORTED AS FUNCTIONING SINCE LAST 10 DAYS OF MARCH.

G. AGRICULTURAL LOSSES - NO HARD FIGURES WERE GIVEN BUT EXTENSIVE DAMAGE WAS REPORTED TO ANIMAL BARNES, GRAIN WAREHOUSES AND SILOS.

H. FOREIGN TRADE SECTOR HAS NOT BEEN AFFECTED AND ALL CONTRACTS WILL BE HONORED ACCORDING TO FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER PATAN.

3. CITING RECOVERY PROGRESS, CEAUSESCU REMARKED THAT NOT ONLY WERE REPORTS FROM ABROAD ABOUT 5 - 10 YEAR ECONOMIC SETBACK GROSSLY EXAGGERATED BUT THAT CURRENT ANNUAL AND FIVE YEAR PLAN TARGETS WOULD BE SURPASSED. HE STATED THAT TOTAL MONETARY "CONTRIBUTIONS" FROM WORKERS, WHICH HAVE BEEN 3 BILLION LEI TO DATE, COMBINED WITH EXTRA WORK EFFORTS OF POPULACE AND INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE WOULD SERVE TO RECOVER ALL DAMAGES. (COMMENT: CEAUSESCU'S PROGNOSIS OF RAPID RECOVERY UNCLASSIFIED

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AND LITTLE SETBACK TO ECONOMIC GROWTH CAN BE BELIEVED WHEN ONE CONSIDERS THAT 3 BILLION IS 30 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL ESTIMATED DAMAGE AND FACT MAJOR LOSSES WERE IN HOUSING UNITS. THE MOST SERIOUS IMPEDIMENT TO RECOVERY WILL RESULT IF BOTTLENECKS DEVELOP IN PRODUCTION AREAS SUPPLIED BY DAMAGED FACILITIES WHICH ARE NOT YET APPARENT. FURTHER, THIS 3 BILLION LEI DOES NOT INCLUDE "VOLUNTARY" EXTRA WORK WITHOUT PAY THAT HAS BECOME COMMON SINCE QUAKE. WORKERS IN KEY INDUSTRIES ARE WORKING 7 DAYS A WEEK OR EXTRA SHIFTS FOR NO ADDITIONAL PAY, WHILE OTHERS ARE CONTRIBUTING ONE TO TWO DAYS PER MONTH FREE WORK. END COMMENT.) BARNES

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 15-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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